



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1995

No. 83

Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, May 15, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.—Isaiah 26:3.

Jehovah Shalom, we thank You for this marvelously direct and uncluttered promise. We long for this superlative quality of peace, and for good reason. You have called us to lead this great Nation. To enable us to be creative Copernican thinkers about the problems and opportunities before us this day, You seek to give us profound inner peace.

But Lord, we find it difficult to stay our minds on You. We try to focus on You and often our attention wanders; we seek to listen to You and the sound waves to our hearts are cluttered with the static of distracting voices; we want to trust You, but years of self-reliance make it difficult to wait patiently for Your answers. Most of the time our motto is, "I have just got to get control of my life!" Ah, there's the issue, Lord. We were never meant to usurp Your control. Now in the quiet of this time of prayer we discover the secret: You alone can keep our minds stayed on You. All we can do is ask for the miracle of a day lived in constant awareness of Your abiding presence. May this be a day crammed full of spectacular moments when You keep our minds steady, our hearts calm, and our wills alert to Your will. Lord of peace, keep our minds on You. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the distinguished President pro tempore.

On behalf of Senator DOLE, I have been asked to announce that there will be a period of morning business until the hour of 12 noon at which time the Senate will begin consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, the budget resolution. And I have been asked by Senator DOLE to announce that Senators should be aware that rollcall votes may be expected throughout the day; that it is Senator DOLE's expectation that 8 to 10 hours of the total of 50 hours statutory time limit will be used today on the budget resolution; and, to announce further that leaders' time is being reserved.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair advises the Senate that, under the previous order, leadership time has been reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We are now in morning business for a time not to extend beyond the hour of 12 noon.

During morning business, Senators are permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes.

RUBY RIDGE, ID, AND WACO, TX

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have asked for a period of time to be reserved this morning to speak about the incidents at Ruby Ridge, ID, and Waco, TX. And there are a number of other Senators who have stated to me their intention to come to speak.

My remarks at the moment will be relatively brief, and I want to thank my distinguished colleague from Colorado for yielding to me because he was on the floor before I arrived. It is a lit-

tle unusual to find Senators here in advance of the opening of the Senate session. But Senator CAMPBELL has time reserved as well.

I hope to return later during the period for morning business to speak at greater length and also other Senators will come to speak on the subjects of Ruby Ridge, ID, and Waco, TX, as well. But I have a commitment to appear before the Finance Committee at 9:30 to testify on the flat tax.

(Mr. DEWINE assumed the chair.)

RUBY RIDGE, ID

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I think it is important that there be a positive showing by the Senate of our concerns about what happened at Ruby Ridge, ID, on August 21, 1992, and the days thereafter, and what happened at Waco, TX, on April 19, 1993, and the days which preceded to assure the American people that appropriate congressional oversight will occur and that there will be accountability at the highest levels of the U.S. Government.

The House of Representatives has scheduled a hearing on the events at Waco, TX, and an announcement has been made by the distinguished chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee that the Judiciary Committee will hold hearings on Waco, TX, and Ruby Ridge, ID, as well.

As I said last week on the Senate floor, it is my hope that we will do these hearings sooner rather than later because of my strong view that the American people need reassurance that there will be proper oversight. I say that I do not know what the answers are to the questions which have been raised, but I do see many important and profound questions. And I do think it is absolutely necessary that a full effort be made with congressional oversight to find answers.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

S 6837